Women fencers
5th in regionals

By Martin Dickau
NEW YORK — The women’s fencing team put together an
other strong effort last weekend, finishing fifth in the 1985 NCAA
Northeastern Regional Women’s Fencing Championships.

Captain Vanessa Arndt ’85, Ann Zabludoff ’86, and Linda
Yuhasz ’84 also participated in Sunday’s individual competition,
placing the nation’s top-ranked women fencers.

Arndt and Yuhasz were both knocked out in the first round, but
Zabludoff advanced to the finals, where she was defeated, too, by
the prowess of first-ranked de-

fending champions Katy Bilo-
deeus — a former MIT coach
Eric Soller protégé — and se-
conde-ranked Sherry Monopoli.

The team competition was
split into two pools of four. MIT,
which was seeded sixth in the
country, was positioned with second-seeded Yale, third-seeded St.
John’s, and eighth-seeded Wellesley College.

The squad started well against St.
John’s, holding even after
eight bouts, but St. John’s pulled away to win, 9-5.

MIT went on to face Yale, which had destroyed Wellesley, 9-
1, and faced little better, drop-
ping a 9-2 decision. Zabludoff
defeated Andrea Merkus, an
Olympic fencing team member,
and Yuhasz defeated Beth Hull
for the two victories.

The squad went on to face
Wellesley, and pulled itself to-
ther to New York University, 9-4,
but missed fourth place when it
lost to New York University, 9-4.

The championship’s top three
finishers — Yale, St. John’s, and
Columbia — advance to the
NCAA national championships at
Norre Dame in two weeks.

The top six individuals — Co-
olumbia’s Blodeaux, Hunter’s
Monopoli, Yale’s Jessica Yu and
Merkus, Cornell’s Christine Ha-
mon, and Columbia’s Lisa Pia-
za — also qualify for the nation-
als.

MIT gymasts
place fifth in
New Englands

By Madeline Biber
The women’s gymnastics team
broke its scoring record for the
third meet in a row Saturday,
claiming 140.4 points en route to a
fifth-place finish at the New
England Women’s Gymnastics
Championships at Rhode Island
College.

Comprehend College won the
women’s championship. Three
points kept MIT from fourth place,
while the squad was more than 17 points ahead of the sixth-place
finisher.

Many of the team members
equalled or exceeded their per-
sonal bests on final meet. De-
spite an injured elbow, Missy
Massfield ’85 placed third in bal-
ance beam, and third in the floor
exercise.

MIT is planning a spring exhibi-
tion to attract gymnasts to fu-
ture teams. The squad is hoping
to get enough help from new
coaches to have another strong
season next year.

Five senior gymnasts will be
leaving the squad this year: Jen-
ifer Gall, Linda Lee and Saki
Ozawa.

Returning to form the core of
next year’s team will be four ju-
niors: Grace Tan, Lisa Wall, Sue
Zlotnik, and Madeline Biber; two
sophomores: Hillary Thompson
and Susan Leonard; and one fresh-
man: Olga Kuhn.

(Editors’ Note: Madeline Biber
is a member of the gymnastics team.)

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SPORTS

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Katy Blodeaux, of Columbia University, retreats from a lunge by Ann Zabludoff ’86. Blodeaux, the number one women fencer in the nation, won this weekend’s tournament in New York City. Tech photo by Merrick Stowe.